

Amendments to the Specification:

Amend page 6, insert New paragraph before line 10 as follows:

It is yet still a further object of the invention to permit the merchant to aggregate purchases made under all information sets of each user. The aggregation of purchases makes the user eligible for volume discount or rebate offered by the merchant.

Amend page 6, insert New paragraph before line 25 as follows:

Figures 12-14 illustrate database records used in the aggregation of purchases.

Amend page 9, paragraph beginning at line 18, as follows:

If the name returned was not "order", control transfers to block 908, where the name is compared to "delete". If it matches, control transfers to block ~~906~~ 910 and the n-th set of address and credit card data is deleted from the data base, and a screen like that of FIGURE 7 is prepared for the buyer. This will look similar to the screen he was viewing, except that one line of address and credit card data will have been deleted. Control transfers to block 926 which delivers the page to the web server for transfer to the user, and then exits the script.

Amend page 10, paragraph beginning at line 18, as follows:

If the name returned was not "~~edit~~" "create", control transfers to block 916, where the name is compared to "create". If it matches, control transfers to block 918 and a screen similar to FIGURE 3 is prepared, but not prepopulated. An additional cookie is set, containing n, a value one greater than the number of stored records for the user. Control transfers to block 926 which delivers the page to the web server for transfer to the user, and then exits the script.

Amend page 12, insert the following New paragraphs after line 20:

FIGURE 11 illustrates the overall system used to provide web-based shopping. A plurality of user's workstation (also called Data Entry Device) connects through the internet to central accounting system implemented on a web server (not shown). The server is supported by a database 1100 which contains various kinds of information.

FIGURES 12-14 are database structures or records provided in the database.

FIGURE 12 illustrates how the various information sets are stored in the database. Shown are information sets for the customer whose information sets are displayed in FIGURE 7. Information sets are indexed by customer number, so all the information sets may be displayed to the customer for his selection. They contain the customer's complete credit card number, although that information is not displayed. When the customer checks out, this information is accessed to prepare the display shown in FIGURE 7. This information is modified if the user elects to create, edit, or delete an information set.

FIGURE 13 illustrates how the customer purchase information is stored in the database. It is also indexed by customer number. Illustrated is the purchase shown in FIGURE 7 as well as a later purchase. Each purchase record indicates which information set was used for the purchase. To keep the records brief, purchased items are identified

by their stock numbers, written under the heading "Item", rather than textual descriptions displayed to the customer as shown in FIGURE 7. This database can be used for customer inquiries regarding purchases, aggregation and for preparing credit card charges.

The database segment shown in FIGURE 14 is used to associate text descriptions with item stock numbers. Illustrated are the items shown which appear in FIGURE 13.

It is advantageous to index the records by customer number as shown in FIGURE 13 because this permits easy access to all of the customer's purchase history, regardless of which information set is used. For example, the merchant could access the database to determine all the purchases made by each customer in the past year, by summing all records (expanding price times quantity) with the same customer number, to apply volume discounts or rebates, or to make special offers. This would not be possible if the user created independent identities with separate customer numbers.